Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	**Asian Journal of Economics, Business and Accounting**
Manuscript Number:	**Ms_AJEBA_69774**
Title of the Manuscript:	**The Impact of ICT on Terrorism in African Countries**
Type of the Article	**Original Research Article**

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty'**, provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.
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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment *(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)*
Compulsory REVISION comments	"The Impact of ICT on Terrorism in African Countries" AJEBA-69774 review This manuscript examines impact on terrorism of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in forty-nine African countries over a twelve-year period from 1998-2012. More than one indicator is used to measure the links of ICT to terrorism. More attention is required to describe what is meant by terrorism, especially its targets, purposes and strategies (tactics), as well as its membership. Are people, property and/or institutions the primary targets? Do terrorist groups recruit members or is membership more or less stable? Do countries with terrorist groups vary in strategies and methods of policing (control)? Importantly, is terrorist group membership visible or hidden from local and/or regional populations, or does it vary according to the individual terrorist group? ABSTRACT: The important details of methods and focal area and research outcome are stated succinctly and provide several terms suitable for a topic and/or theme search. KEY WORDS: These terms should be written-out, rather than abbreviated. Theme of this article is terrorism, which should appear first, followed by a term for methodology and the selected time period (which is missing). Customarily, the location appears last. Page one, first paragraph (column one): The term "exponentially" usually is used for a large group of occurrences. To say "terror activities have grown across the continent of Africa" would be sufficient. The term "North and Southern Africa" is confusing, as it seems to imply the entire continent. Identification in this paragraph of other places in Africa indicates each country by its official name. Citation of three sources is awkward at the end of this paragraph. Sources typically are cited by surname(s) or numerically by a number that appears in References (as done for this manuscript). One or the other style needs to be used and not combined. Page one, second paragraph: This comparison of the impact of Boko Haram should include a time period for Nigeria and for the Islamic State in Iraq, which would allow comparison. Inclusion of a research question (thesis) at the end of this paragraph provides no supportive information. That information should appear in the paragraph that follows "Since the years 2000…" Page one, third paragraph (second column): The preceding comment (above) suggests there needs to be a statement that introduces the research focus. Other than reference "[5]," there have been ethnographies that have explored the impact of mobile devices in a few African countries. As one would expect, these early studies are focused on young people. One awkward phrase is usually written "mobile telephones," sometimes even 'iPhones.' Page one, fourth paragraph (second column, continues into the next page): This paragraph contextualizes the situation about mobile devices by indicating that ICT is used not only for counter-terrorism, but also by the individuals involved in terrorism. Rather than communication among terrorists [one wonders if this could be monitored and/or prohibited by authorities], the internet is mentioned as a source of propaganda, which leads to the statement of the research question for the article. The phrase is awkward "by considering four but connected terrorism indicators…" Both its wording and the inclusion of "(iv)" are unclear. Page two, second paragraph (first column): This paragraph lacks cited literature. Page two, fourth paragraph (first column): Somehow the two mentioned theorists (Wiener and Shannon) should be described together for the "theory of cybernetics" that will be used for this	I did it, see the text If it is possible for a social media as Facebook to restrict certain

	study. Rather than "interesting," it appears that this theory is particularly relevant. The description of "dormant cells" and "terrorist groups abroad" requires contextualization of the geographic location (focus) of these groups. Are all of the particular terrorists located and acting within a single country? Do groups share strategies, directly or primarily through the visibility of their webpages? These questions are answered in later paragraphs, but it would be helpful to the reader to provide brief comments at this point in the manuscript. The social media by which terrorist groups transmit information, namely, Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram and YouTube raise the question of whether these international platforms can monitor and/or restrict certain messages (see comments below). Even if utilized social media has privacy rules, is there a possibility that legal action could force these social media platforms to reveal identities, or, more significantly, prohibit their messaging based on its damaging content? Page two, fifth paragraph (second column): This is an impressive list of social media benefits. Mentioning that ICT has been considered for reducing "corruption" suggests that legal intricacies have been considered with possible efficacy in controlling and/or reducing terrorism. Again, sources need to be identified by a number without author names. One exception is using the surname of Keene [29], with its singular verb "highlights." When one author cites another, this indicates particular relevance for the cited author's research. Page three, first paragraph (first column, continues into next column): The two closing sentences to this paragraph effectively state the rationale for this study. None of the three cited sources [30] [31] [32] appear in Table 1. Three of four terrorism indicators require greater clarification (domestic, transnational, total). Is *domestic* limited to one country and/or one region of a country? Is *transnational* across borders of one or more countries? Is *total* a combination of these two or does it include other factors? Concept of "unclear" terrorism is not clear. If there is sufficient information to classify an action as "terrorism," there should be enough information to classify it. It appears that [36] and [37] are sources for information in the table. If quotations from these sources are used, they require inclusion of page number(s). Does [37] use the four variables (indicators) OR state that they "are increasingly used in the literature on terrorism"? A few rows lack a source for information and/or definition of variable terminology. World Bank both WDI and WGI should be listed in references, even if it is a webpage. Pages 3-4, Table 2: Variables should be written as they appear in Table 1. Not all variables from Table 1 appear in this table for Panel A. The "Control Variables," e.g., are absent in Table 1. The five columns are unclear and not described in the text or at the bottom of the table, especially the all-important "Obs." (observations). Are these the author's observations OR are they taken from the literature? Possibly, the missing description with clarification begins "Next to ICTs variables…" that appears to be a brief paragraph across two columns. Because this study is focused on Africa, it would be helpful to the reader to group countries from West Africa, East Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, and, importantly, identify which countries yield the greater number of observations. It is doubtful that terrorism incidents were evenly distributed across the continent of Africa. Were any countries without terrorism incidents? The strategy of ZONES is introduced in the closing paragraphs as a potent strategy of inter-country collaboration for "a high level of sharing information" (page 12). Do these Zones refer to regions of Africa (as identified above)? Are Zones known and accepted by all of the countries in Africa, OR is the idea of Zones generated through the United Nations? Is there any interest in a pan-African union that would comprise all of the continent's countries that initially would focus on the issue of terrorism? Page 4, Table 3. This table requires greater clarity for what it presents. List at the end of the table is not explained. If this list identifies basic content of the variables, it might be possible to list separately each variable (with its specific content in parentheses, like this). There is no space between the brief paragraph and the beginning of Table 3 that appears in two columns. Page 4, second paragraph (across two columns): Opening statement on education is interesting, but this paragraph needs a more general opening that identifies which particular topics have a positive and/or negative relationship with terrorism, and which relationships are "mixed." This will be remedied when a description of the methodology appears earlier in the article manuscript,	messages that the contents are prohibited. Unfortunately, it's not the case for all the social media such as whatsapp groups where the content is still private and inaccessible by the competent authorities. See the reference Ender et al. And Gailbulloev et al. [37] Have used effectively four indicators as proxy of terrorism. All the twelve variables of our model are included in table 1 as well as in table2. The differences observed in the "obs" column are explained by the fact that our panel is not balanced. And we didn't take a risk to treat them because certain observations are highly sensitives. Due to the fact that the activities of terrorism groups aren't begin at the same time in the different sub-region of sub-Saharan Africa, we didn't find the necessity to make this comparison. The list below table 3 is explained up in table 1. I did it, see the text According to scale of our figures, when we move from one figure to another, the proxy of a variable change and due to the fact that, the various variables aren't measured in the same manner. Consequently, the scale of each figure is generated automatically by the software in accordance to their measure. In the chronological order of presentation, we ought to start with the data. The presentation of the empirical model and the estimation technique rely on the data characteristics.

	which will require brief re-writing of several sections to make sure the ideas flow consistently from paragraph to paragraph. Page 5, Figure 1 and Figure 2: These two figures appear with no description (legend) that accompanies the individual figure and no information in the text (paragraphs). Scales vary from 0 to 60 (Figure 1) and 0 to 200 (Figure 2), which makes it difficult for the reader to make a visual conclusion which is more significant in terms of impact within an individual figure (Domter, Transfer, Unter, Totter) and across the two figures. Finally, both figures are very small and difficult to read. The journal may provide suggestions and technical assistance for constructing readable figures. Title for Figure 2 could be Mobile Devices and Terrorism. Both terms in each title should be capitalized. Pages 5-6, Methodology: The methodology needs to appear much earlier in the article, possibly before “3: Data and Empirical Model,” because, obviously, the three tables and the two figures contain data. Particular attention needs to be directed toward the System Generalized Method of Moment that is not mentioned for either the three tables or the two figures. Page 6, fourth paragraph (first column): Empirical Results and Discussion considers the main focus of the investigation, but it is not clear how data (statistics) in the four tables of this section illustrate research findings. These findings appear to support the hypotheses (research question or thesis) that were conceptualized. Number of observations is consistently the same across each variable (676, 675, 412 and 682, 681, 414) for Table 5 and Table 6. Number of observations for Table 6, however, differ, possibly because the data are aggregated differently. The reader may wonder which countries are among those enumerated in each table and why the total counts vary between Table 4 and Table 5 (the same) and Table 6, and why none of them sum to the total of forty-nine countries that is mentioned earlier in the article manuscript. Importantly, are these countries unduplicated or were there any of the countries without evidence of terrorism that is related to ICT? Again, sources should be identified with their Reference number.	The number of observations and the number of countries displayed in the table are selected automatically by the software according to data availability
Minor REVISION comments	((Contained in above comments))	
Optional/General comments		

PART 2:

	Reviewer’s comment	**Author’s comment** *(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)*
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	*(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)*	No